

What is claimed is:

1. A polymeric compound, comprising:
  - (a) a thermoplastic polymer capable of forming an article via extrusion or molding;
  - (b) glass microspheres; and
  - (c) metallic flakes.
2. The compound of Claim 1, wherein at least some of the glass microspheres are coated with a metal.
3. The compound of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the metal is aluminum and wherein the metallic flakes are aluminum.
- 15 4. The compound of Claim 1 or Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyhaloolefins, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, polystyrenes, polysiloxanes, and blends, mixtures, and alloys of them.
- 20 5. The compound of Claim 1 or Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is acrylic-styrene-acrylonitrile.
6. The compound of Claim 1, wherein the metallic flakes are present in an amount of from about 0.2 to about 1.5 weight percent of the compound.
- 25 7. The compound of any of Claims 1-6, in the form of a molded or extruded article.
8. The compound of any of Claims 1-7, further comprising colorant.

9. An article comprising the compound of any of Claims 1-6 or Claim 8.
10. The article of Claim 9, wherein the article is a motor vehicle part.
- 5           11. The article of Claim 10, wherein the article is a side mirror.
12. The article of Claim 9, wherein the article is safety restraint or guide.
- 10           13. The article of Claim 9, wherein the article is a decorative embellishment for an intentionally dimly-lit interior location.
14. The article of Claim 9, wherein the article is a location or directional marker for exterior locations.

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 13 January 2005 (13.01.05);  
original claims 1-14 replaced by amended claims 1-12]

What is claimed is:

1. A retroreflective article, comprising:  
a polymeric compound, comprising:
  - 5 (a) a thermoplastic polymer capable of forming the article via extrusion or molding;
  - (b) glass microspheres; and
  - (c) metallic flakes,  
wherein the glass microspheres and metallic flakes impart retroreflectivity to  
10 the article, and  
wherein the retroreflectivity resides on all surfaces and throughout bulk of the  
article.
- 15 2. The article of Claim 1, wherein at least some of the glass microspheres are  
coated with a metal.
3. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the metal is aluminum and  
wherein the metallic flakes are aluminum.
- 20 4. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is  
selected from the group consisting of polyolefins, polyhaloolefins, polyamides,  
polyesters, polycarbonates, polystyrenes, polysiloxanes, and blends, mixtures, and  
alloys of them.
- 25 5. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is  
acrylic-styrene-acrylonitrile.
6. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the metallic flakes are present in  
an amount of from about 0.2 to about 1.5 weight percent of the compound.  
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7. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the compound further comprises  
colorant.
- 35 8. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the article is a motor vehicle  
part.

9. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the surfaces comprise flat surfaces, simple curved surfaces, compound curve surfaces or combinations thereof.

5           10. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the article is safety restraint or guide.

11. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the article is a decorative embellishment for an intentionally dimly-lit interior location.

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12. The article of Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the article is a location or directional marker for exterior locations.